REFLECTIONS
ON THE
Short History
OF
Standing Armies
IN
ENGLAND
In Vindication of
His *Majesty* and *Government*.

WITH

Some Animadversions on a Paper, Entituled, *Considerations upon the Choice of a Speaker.*

——En qua discordia Cives
Perduxit miseros——
Virg. Ecl. 1.

LONDON, Printed in the Year 1699.

REFLECTIONS

ON THE

Short History

OF

Standing Armies

IN

ENGLAND:

In Vindication of

This Author and Government.

With

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PREFACE

THE repeated Attempts of a Reſtleſs Party to embroil theſe Nations in New Conteſts with their Soveraign, make it the indiſpenſible Duty of every good Subject to contribute his Mite to the Common Repoſe, and to the creating of a good Underſtanding betwixt Prince and People. As in the Natural, ſo in the Politick Body, all Obſtructions of a Mutual Communication of Friendly Influence betwixt the Head and the Members, tend to the Diſſolution and Deſtruction of the whole; therefore it is abſolutely neceſſary to apply timely Remedies to ſuch a Threatning Diſtemper. It is not the Deſign of the following Sheets to preſcribe the Antichriſtian Recipe of utere jure tuo Cæſar, *though ſometimes it may be abſolutely neceſſary in Government, as well as in Chirurgery, to practiſe the Maxim of*

——————Immedicabile Vulnus,
Enſe recidendum ne pars ſincera trahatur.

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PREFACE.

The Author wishes the Conversion, not the Destruction of the Opposite Party, and that they would apply Cordials, and not Corrosives to Three Languishing Nations, whose Divisions have well-nigh undone them already. The may rest assured that he hath no Prejudice against their Persons, whatever dislike he entertains of their Principles; and that as he is under no Obligation to the Present Government by Place of Profit or Trust, he does not engage in the Controversie either out of a desire or expectation of other Reward, but that of a Good Conscience, in doing his Endeavours, as People ought to do in a General Conflagration, to extinguish the Flames that threaten our Destruction. He wishes that the Persons whom he opposes may act from Principles equally harmless, and submits his hasty Conceptions to the Censure of the Publick, for whose Service they are wholly design'd.

REFLECTIONS

REFLECTIONS
ON THE
History of Standing Armies
IN
ENGLAND, &c.

THE Authors of the History of the Standing Army, lay down this Excellent Proposition in their Preface, That *the whole Mystery of Government is to make the Interest of the Governours and Governed the same*, But the Difficulty is how to convince those concerned, that it is so, and to bring them to a right Understanding of what is really their joint Interest; for sometimes one, sometimes both, are mistaken in that Point, as may be easily evinc'd by the following Instances. The People of *England* judg'd truly that it was their Interest to have had the Bill of Exclusion pass against the Duke of *York*, but the Court thought the contrary. His Present Majesty judg'd truly, that it was his and the Nation's joint Interest that his Protestant Subjects of all Denominations should be rendred equally capable of serving him in Places of Power and Trust; but hitherto the Parliament have thought the contrary. It were the Interest of the Kings of *France* and *Spain*, and their Subjects too, to embrace the Reformed Reli-

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gion, as might be eaſily demonſtrated; but hitherto both the Governours and Governed have judg'd otherwiſe.

So that tho' the Rule be true, yet both Rulers and People are often miſtaken in the Application of it, and make their Humour their Intereſt; which can be aſcrib'd to no other Cauſe, but the general Weakneſs and Corruption of Mankind, tho' our Author ſeems to deny it in the beginning of his Preface, upon what Account, or from what Principle, is beſt known to himſelf. Nor is this Opinion of the Depravation of Men, chargeable with that lazy Conſequence they faſten upon it, *That therefore People ſubmit patiently to their Countries Calamities, And think a Reformation impoſſible*; on the contrary they ought to take the more Care to guard againſt publick Miſcarriages, as they generally do in all Revolutions and new Settlements, becauſe the Corruption of Mankind muſt be reſtrained by the Fetters of Law, and have been thus effectually reſtrain'd in all Ages, when ſuch Laws have been daily put in execution, as Hiſtory and Experience teſtifie.

But to come cloſer to our Authors. What if it ſhould happen that they act contrary to this Rule themſelves, by ſuggeſting ſuch Miſcarriages in the preſent Adminiſtration, and improving them to that bad End of Perſwading the People that the preſent Government carries on a diſtinct Intereſt from theirs, when no ſuch thing can be demonſtrated? Certainly ſuch a Practiſe is againſt the Intereſt both of the Governours and Governed: Nor is it a probable way of obtaining Redreſs from a Parliament, which they tell us is the *Fountain Head from whence the People expect all their Happineſs, and Redreſs of Grievances*, to inſinuate that they are choſen by *external Power or Influence*. Neither does it ſeem to carry any great ſign of Affection to His Majeſty, to tell the People that the Parliament is the Fountain from whence they muſt expect all their Happineſs. Time was when our Parliament could have but done very little towards our Relief, if he had not come in to their Aſſiſtance; and ſeeing he was ſo kind and generous then, when he had no other Concern in us but a remote Proſpect of Succeſſion, and the Preſervation of our Religion and Liberties, why ſhould he

he be excluded now from making up part of the *Fountain* at least, whence we are to hope for *Relief* and *Redress*?

Our Authors say true, That most of our Grievances and Corruptions are owing to King *Charles* II. being allowed a mercenary Army, and such large Revenues, as enabled him both to make use of Force and Bribery, in chooſing Parliament Men, and bringing Parliaments to a Compliance: But what Comparison is there betwixt that Reign and this? Does not the World know that that Prince had no ſuch Occaſion for either as this Government hath had, and ſtill has? He talk'd, indeed of an actual War with *France*, but 'twas no longer than till he had actually got Money out of our Pockets. But it's plain we had an actual and tedious War now, which could never have been carried on without Money.

This Inſinuation, that the Great Offices of State were better in the Hands of the Nobility, and of ſingle Perſons, than in the Hands of Commoners, and thoſe of Five, Seven, Nine, Fourteen, Ten, Eight, Sixteen, Two, and Four at a time, as the Treaſury, Admiralty, Cuſtoms, Exciſe, Navy-Office, &c. are now managed, does not ſeem to be very favourable to their pretended Deſign of the Peoples Intereſt, which certainly is better conſulted, by diſtributing profitable Offices amongſt as many of 'em as poſſible, than by enriching One Perſon with an overgrown Sallary; and beſides, it is the Dictate both of Scripture and Reaſon, That in the Multitude of Counſellors there is Safety; otherwiſe, if we may be allowed to compare ſmall Things with great, our Author's Argument will plead as ſtrongly for abſolute Monarchy, without the Aſſiſtance of a Parliament, as for having thoſe Offices he ſpeaks of entruſted in the Hands of ſingle Perſons. I am far from thinking they deſign'd the Friends of Deſpotical Power ſo much Kindneſs as to argue for them, becauſe it is plain, that the Blow is aim'd at the preſent Government; for ſpeaking of King *Charles* II. they ſay, *He had not Places enough in his Diſpoſal to ſecure a Majority in the Houſe; for in thoſe early Days the Art was not found out, of ſplitting and multiplying Places; as inſtead of a Lord Treaſurer, to have Five Lords of the Treaſury*, &c. Envy and Malice knows no

Bounds, but is so directly opposite to Charity, that thinks no Evil, that it will be sure to put the worst Sense upon every thing it will bear. Good Nature and untainted Loyalty would put a Construction of a contrary Tendency, upon this Practice of the present Government, that whereas former Governours, who design'd to swallow up Property by Prerogative, did all they could to render their Ministers as Despotical in their several Stations, as themselves; and that they might have the fewer Witnesses of their Designs to bereave the People of their Money and Liberty, put the chief Places of Profit and Trust, into as few Hands as they could: The present Governour, who came to redress the Grievances committed by his Predecessors, takes a contrary Method, and is willing that those Offices of Power and Trust should be entrusted in more Hands, that the People might be better secur'd against the Bribery of the Court, or a Foreign Potentate, than they were in former Reigns, it being highly improbable that Seven Lords of the Admiralty would connive at sending our Naval Stores, Ammunition, &c. to our Enemies of *France*, though One Lord-Admiral did, and so of the rest; it being certainly much harder to Debauch so many, than to Debauch One; and if Care be taken to fill those Places with Gentlemen of true English Principles, as many of those at least who enjoy them at present are known to be, the greater the Number of such Persons entrusted, the more is the Nation secur'd.

The Gentlemen's Argument that when these Offices were manag'd by Lords, the Commons were severe Inquisitors into their Actions, is no very friendly Discovery, nor does it any ways seem to be calculated for promoting a good Understanding betwixt the Two Houses, no more than betwixt the Lords and the King, who is hereby accused of giving that away from them, which according to our Authors they might well plead as their own by Prescription; seeing they would seem to say, that *this*, and other things they there mention, *was the English Government from the time of the Romans to that of* King Charles II. But as to the force of the Argument, they would do well to produce their Reasons, why the Commons should not be as severe

Inquisitors

Inquisitors into the Actions of some of their own Number, seeing he himself tells us that the Advancement of *Strafford* and *Noy* by King *Charles* I. served only to Exasperate the rest of the Commons, because he had not Places enough for all that expected them, nor Money enough to bribe them; it being equally impossible for his present Majesty to provide Places for all of the Commoners that may now expect them, or to find Money enough to bribe them, except he should *split* all the Places of Power and Trust in the Kingdom *in Infinitum*, as our Authors say; but then I am afraid that no Body would think them a Bribe worth the accepting, and so it may ease them of the Horror which they say they are so much troubled with, to think what danger this [Splitting of Places] may be to our Constitution. But to return to the Argument of our Authors again. Let them oblige the World with their Reasons why those Commons that are disappointed of their Expectations of Places and Money now, should not be as severe Inquisitors into the Actions of those that have been happier, as to that Matter, than themselves, as the Commons were into those of *Strafford* and *Noy*, in the Reign of King *Charles* I.

I must also beg leave of our Authors, to remark by the way, that notwithstanding their mighty Kindness to the People of *England*, and their Zeal for their Liberties and Laws, they seem to deal very unkindly with those Noble Patriots, that asserted our Liberties in 1641. when they reflect upon 'em as being exasperated because they had not the Money and Places they expected. What could the most imbittered Cavalier have said more? This is in downright Terms to accuse them of the most abominable Hypocrisie, and Rebellion, that ever was in the World. Whether this was the Design of our Authors or only an advised dash of their Pen, I know not; but I am afraid there's a Snake in the Grass, when neither the Patriots of those, nor of these times escape their Lash. That Parliament which Rescued the Expiring Liberties of the Nation, did it because the King did not bribe them; and the bravest Prince in the Universe, who hath not only Rescued Three Nations, but the Protestant Religion, and the Common Liberty of *Europe*, must be

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slily accus'd of bribing his Parliaments, to carry on an Interest distinct from that of his People.

Our Authors are mighty solicitous to think *what will become of our Liberty, if in Ages to come all the Places should be given to Parliament Men. What shall be done* (say they) *when the Criminal becomes the Judge, and the Malefactors are left to try themselves? We may be sure their Common Danger will Unite them, and they will all Stand by one another.* The Country will be Unhappy indeed if that ever come to be the Case; but as I have seen the same Charge, or one much like it, in other Pamphlets against the Age that now is, if our Authors think that the Charge is true, it had been more Ingenuous in them to speak out boldly, and not to lay the Plot in Ages to come. I am as far from approving such an Abuse, as they or any Men alive, it being highly unreasonable that a King should have the Legislative Power so much at Command, by making Members of the House of Commons, when he has such an Interest in the Upper House by his Domesticks, Officers of State, by creating new Lords, and making new Bishops, upon every Vacancy. But why all this Clamour against the present Government? Have not many of those Officers who have been formerly, or are now chosen Members of Parliament, deserved well both of their Prince and Country? And is it not possible that they can be true to the one, without betraying the other? I will put the Case, that his Majesty should have kept up the Army of Volunteers that assembled to assist him at the Revolution, or at least as many of them as would have been willing to have continued in Arms till their own and the common Interest of *Europe* had been secur'd, which many are of Opinion had in that Case been much sooner and easier effected, could Offices Civil and Military have been more deservedly bestow'd, than upon those Gentlemen that ventur'd their Lives and Estates in so good a Cause. And must none of those have been chosen Parliament Men, because they were in Office under the King? Certainly they cannot but own the Absurdity of such a Consequence. But to come nearer them, it has been observ'd by some (truly, or otherwise, I shall not determine) that in many Places where

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the Clergy had most Interest, such Men have been chosen, as are commonly reputed Jacobites, or that way inclin'd; and its but reasonable to believe it, because that Order of Men was universally tainted with the Doctrines of Nonresistance, and Passive-Obedience; and those that continue so, must needs be Enemies to the present Constitution. Then, supposing it to be so, and considering the Interest the Clergy have in *England*, are any Men more like to be a Balance to Jacobites of their chusing, and to oppose their sly and unfriendly Motions in Parliament, than those that are engaged by Interest, as well as Affection, to support his Majesty's Title.

From all which it is ease to infer, that these Gentlemen, and others whose have writ of the same Side, ought to distinguish betwixt Times and Seasons. In the late Reigns the Court aim'd visibly at the Subversion of our Religion and Liberties, and therefore it was dangerous indeed to the Nation to chuse those that had Places and Offices under the Government, because generally none were employ'd by it but such as concurr'd in the same mischievous Design: But can Malice it self say any such thing of this Government? Hath not his present Majesty restor'd us to our ancient Liberty, and secur'd us from the Danger that threatned our Religion? Whence then do all these Jealousies of the Court now arise? Either they must proceed from the Papists and Jacobites, or from those that are Enemies to Kingly Government, or from both; And is not this a surprizing Conjuction of Two such opposite Parties? The Jacobites indeed, act answerably to their Principles in so doing, for they are generally of Opinion, that Kingly Government, and a Lineal Succession are *Jure divino*, both which have been so exploded since the Revolution, that they are only fit to be entertain'd by Men who have lost their Reason; but for any of those call'd Commonwealths-men, who, though they think that Form the best, yet always profess it as their Opinion, that they ought to submit to any Species of Magistracy that answers the Ends of Government; It is mighty strange that any of them should now fall in with the Jacobites to render the present Government uneasie. It might have been reasonably hop'd, that their being

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dropp'd by the Jacobites, laſt Seſſion, in the Matter of Regulating the Militia, in Hopes of which, ſome of 'em had been inveagl'd to concur againſt the Standing Army, ſhould have now convinc'd them of their Miſtake, and created in 'em a generous Contempt of that miſchievous Party, whoſe Name ought to be held in Execration by all that wiſh well to their Country, and the Proteſtant Religion, or that can remember their late Horrid Plot to Aſſaſſinate His Majeſty, and bring in a French Army. Who then can have Patience to hear ſome, who pretend to be of oppoſite Principles, applaud the Choice of ſuch Perſons for Parliament Men, and expreſs their Hopes of any thing that is good to the Nation from them?

I know their principal Reaſon of joining with them, is, that they think they will oppoſe a Standing Army, and the chooſing of thoſe who have Places of Power and Truſt under his Majeſty for Members of Parliament; and that ſome of them are ſenſible too, that the Jacobites do this only to make way for the Return of the late King: Whereas they on the other hand oppoſe thoſe things in this Reign, becauſe they may be drawn into Preſident in others, which the People may perhaps have no ſuch Reaſon to truſt. But then ſhould they do Evil, that Good may come of it; ſhould they unhinge and ſhake a good Government, becauſe they are afraid they may fall under a bad one, Is not that the natural way to bring upon themſelves the thing they fear? Suppoſe the preſent Government ſhould be diſabled by with-holding of Money, and denying it a Competent Land-Force, to ſupport it ſelf, and in that Caſe, that a French and Iriſh Army ſhould again be invited over by our Jacobites, as formerly, and land upon us, whether do they think that the Commonwealth, or the Jacobite Party, would be moſt likely to prevail? Would they not find themſelves oblig'd in Honour and Conſcience to eſpouſe King *William*'s Cauſe in that Caſe? Could they find ſuch another General for Authority, or Experience, to fight under? Why then ſhould they take ſuch Methods as naturally tend to bring us to that unhappy Condition?

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Is there no other way to prevent the Inconveniences that may happen by a Standing Army, and Officers being chosen Parliament Men in another Reign, but by exposing this? Had they not acted much more like true Patriots to have oblig'd his present Majesty by their Zeal and Affection for his Service, to have put them into such Posts as might have made them more Capable of preventing those Evils they fear, than ever now they are like to be? Must they because they are not employ'd themselves, which perhaps is none of his Majesty's fault, or that the Law does not allow it, must they therefore embroil his Affairs? Don't they know that in case his present Majesty should either be dethron'd, or cut off by a violent Death, (which God forbid) that the Jacobites, and the high-flown Party of the Church, are like to have the Ascendant, and that they are sworn Enemies, not only to a Commonwealth, but to the Ancient English Constitution? What Hopes then can they entertain of a Commonwealth, or of having the Grievances they now complain of, redress'd in such a Case? Don't they know, and hear every Day, that most of the Clergy are against Liberty of Conscience, and the Form of Government that they plead for? And have they not giv'n such Instances of their Levity, as shews that most of 'em are not to be trusted? Of about Ten Thousand Clergymen, or as some will have it near that number of benefic'd Men in *England*, don't they know that there are not above Two Thousand that adheard to the true English Principles, after King *Charles* the Second's Restoration, but all the rest swore to the Slavish Doctrine of Passive Obedience and Non-resistance, and many of 'em preach'd it up as necessary to be believ'd in order to Salvation? Of all that number again, who had so sworn and preach'd, there were scarcely Two Hundred that held out, but contrary to their said Oaths and Doctrine, submitted to the present Government, many of them cheating themselves and the Publick with the knavish Distinction of a King *de Jure*, and *de Facto*, as they cheat the Church by signing her Doctrinal Articles, not as the Articles of their own Faith, but as Articles of Peace. What Confidence then can be put in those Men? What Reason have we to think that they would not with less Reluctancy declare for the late

King *James* again, if he appear'd in *England* with a Competent Force, than ever they declar'd for King *William*, whose Right they have never recogniz'd by any Act of their Convocation, nor have they laid their Nonjurant Brethren, or those that absolv'd the Assassins, under any Ecclesiastical Censure, tho' they were ready enough to do so against Dissenters. The Case then being thus, the Commonwealth Party must necessarily be ruin'd if this Government be overturn'd, and not only so, but all our English Liberties eternally lost.

Upon all which it does naturally follow, that it is the part of every true Englishman and good Protestant, rather to think of Expedients how to render the present Government Impregnable and Secure against Violence from without, and Treachery from within; how to enable the Nation to defend themselves at home, and succour their Protestant Brethren abroad; how to put *England* in such a Condition, that as she has broke the Chains from off the Necks of all the Princes in *Europe*, she may also cut the Cords of the Ungodly Crew that draw long and deep Furrows upon the Back of the Reformed Churches, and have ungratefully begun a New Persecution upon our Brethren in *Germany*, who had assisted them to Recover their Common Liberty: But instead of that happy Temper and Disposition of Spirit, here's a Crew of Violent Churchmen on the one hand, and a Club of Factious Dissenters on the other; that make it their whole Business to run down the Presbyterians, as if the Nation were only in Danger from them; and here's the Papists and Jacobites on the one hand, and a parcel of Pretended-Commonwealths-Men on the other, that are undermining the present Government, as if there were no Tyranny or Incroachment upon our Liberties to be fear'd, but from thence. These are exactly the Measures our Enemies would have us to take, and the only Methods by which they can effect our Ruine. They have thrown an Apple of Discord into the Empire of *Germany*, by stirring up the Treacherous Papists to invade the Rights of the Protestants, contrary to the Fundamental Laws of the Empire. They have divided the Kingdom of *Spain* by means of their Bribes, and Biggotted Clergy; and there's no Reason to doubt but they have a hand in our Divisions here;

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it being eaſie enough for them to find Tools for their Purpoſe, in all the different Parties of which this Nation is compos'd; eſpecially, conſidering the Number of thoſe that ſtill profeſs themſelves to be for the Late King, and that it was only to preſerve their Eſtates and Imployments, that many others have ſubmitted to his preſent Majeſty.

It is high time I ſhould come now to conſider the Body of this Pamphlet. It begins as if the Gentlemen who compos'd it had been in their Altitudes when the Ground-Plot was laid. *If any Man* (ſay they) *doubts whether a Standing-Army is Slavery, Popery, Mahometiſm, Paganiſm, or any any thing, which they pleaſe, let him read*, &c.

The Paſſion wherewith this Commencement appears to have been writ, promiſes but little of ſolid Reaſon, from what is to follow. It perfectly beſpeaks the Authors to have been in Frantick Fits, and that the Thoughts of a Standing Army did ſo turn their Heads, that they knew not what they writ or ſaid. What Man in his right Wits can think otherwiſe, to hear Men cry out, that a Standing Army is Slavery, Popery, Mahometiſm, *&c.* where is the Slavery in *Holland*, a Commonwealth, though they have had a Standing Army for many Years, are they not the freeſt People perhaps in the World? Where's the Popery, Mahometiſm, *&c.* in the Elector of *Brandenburgh*'s Dominions? yet the Magnanimous Prince his Father, of Glorious Memory, was never without one; nor has the preſent Elector caſhier'd his, ſince the Peace. I have neither Time, nor is it worth while to turn to the Stories of *Matha* and *Spendius* at *Carthage*; nor need we go ſo far back as the Mamalukes of *Egypt*; that of a latter Sultan depos'd by his Janiſaries, is freſh in Memory. Their Inſtances of the *Netherlands* is foreign to the Purpoſe; there the Prince and the People

differ'd in Religion; the Spaniards were animated by the Priests, against the Protestants, which, blessed be God, is not our Case. Our Prince is the greatest Protector, under God, of the Protestant Faith. We are not to fear any Incroachment upon us on that Account. And the same Answer may serve for all their Instances in the Late Reigns.

Our Princes were Papists, or govern'd by such, and were besides preach'd into Tyranny and Despotical Power by our Clergy: They had no Cause to fear an Invasion from *France*, because they were embarqu'd in the same Interest and Design with that Crown. They were so far from endeavouring to prevent the Slavery of *Europe*, and the Ruine of the Protestant Religion, that they contributed to both, nor were their Titles controverted by their Subjects, and an opposite Title maintain'd by a mighty Potentate. There was no Prince then beyond Sea that laid Claim to their Crown, or had a French and Irish Army at their Beck, whenever Opportunity offered to assert it. So that it was evident and plain that they could have no other work for a Standing Army, but to enslave their own Subjects. But they must be wilfully blind that don't perceive the Case to be otherwise now: Here we have a Prince that is the Object of the Malice of Popery and Tyranny, because he hath put a Stop to the Career of Both. He rescued his Native Country from them, when a Stripling, and is not yet allow'd time to breathe, since he hath delivered all *Europe* from them, and fought its Deliverance thro' Seas of Blood: Yet this is the only Tyrant we are now to dread; and his Army that knock'd off our Chains, are the only Men that will put them on again. A grateful Reward to a gallant Prince and a valiant Army!

Brisac is still detain'd by *France*, contrary to the Treaty: They threaten Military Execution upon the Protestants of *Germany*, for claiming the Freedom of their Religion, according to the Fundamental Laws of the Empire. They have Numerous Armies ready to Invade *Italy*, *Spain*, *Germany*, and the *Netherlands*, as soon as the King of *Spain* dies. They solicit to have that Succession settled on one of the Princes of *France*, contrary to as solemn a Treaty and Renuntiation as was ever made in the World. Yet *England* has no cause to apprehend any thing, either from their Force or their Fraud; tho we have Villanous Assassins at home ready to murder our King on every opportunity, and unnatural Rebells enough to invite over a *French* Army, to restore their old Mr. when ever the Blow can be given.

Do these Gentlemen think that all the Assassins fell in *Charnock*, *Perkins* and *Keys*, or that all the Conspirators that Sollicited for the Great Blessing of a *French* Invasion were Executed with *Fenwick* and *Friend*. Is there no Earl still alive, whose Horses may be borrowed for a *Turnham-Green* Expedition? Are the Clergy-men buried that absolved the Assassins, and told them, *That going up to a Cart under* Tyburn *was the first step to Heaven?*

Is there no Great Prince in the World that owes King *William* a Grudge for making him Disgorge his Conquests, and balking his Design of the Universal Monarchy? Is there no old Cuff in St. *Peter's* Chair, that can Consecrate a Dagger to Stab a Prince that hath hindered the enlarging of St. *Peter's* Patrimony? Is there no old Angry Prince alive that had Sir *Edmundbury Godfery* Strangled, for taking the Discovery of the *Popish Plot*, and the Earl of *Essex's* Throte Cut, because he formerly knew too much of his Measures? And is there no *Cranburn* or *Keys* that will do him the Service to be Orderly Men to dogg his Rival, in order to Murder him? Is there no Young *Perkin* beyond-Sea, that may make a Match for a Daughter of *F.* and lay the Foundation of future Titles and Invasions? Have no *Fr.* Wh——s come over of late that were well vers'd in the mystery of Ploting in the days of *Tore*? and have they forgot what influence prostitution had of old to gain some Men to their Party? Are there no angry Clergymen in the Kingdom, that bear King *Willam* a Grudg,

because he was born in a Commonwealth? is descended of Progenitors that never believed one Word of the Doctrine of Passive Obedience? Is there none of 'em bear him ill will because he was bred amongst *Dutch* Presbyterians? hath restored Presbytry in *Scotland*, and given Liberty of Conscience in *England*. Is there none of the Faction remaining, that branded all the Religions, and Sobermen of the Church of *England* with the name of Trimers, and Presbyterians in Masquerade, that Preach'd from their Pulpits they loved the Papists better than they did them, and that ridiculed the belief of Popish Plots? Are there none who use endeavours to divide the moderate Church of *England-men*, and the Dissenters among themselves, because they know they are King *William's* Strength, and that thro their sides they might wound him under the fifth Ribb? If there be none of those things in Nature, then we stand in need of no defence, we may beat our Spears into Plowshares and our Swords into Pruning-hooks; but if there be such things, then let the World judge what Friends they are to the Protestant Interest, and the Welfare of *England*, that would have us deprived of a Land-force in our present Circumstances.

It were to be wished that these Men in their Lucid Intervals would be pleased to consider, whether it be impossible for our Fleet ever to be surprized in a Harbour, as it well nigh happened not many years ago; whether they may not be wind-bound upon our own Coasts, whilst that of our Enemies is brought upon us, as our Fleet was in *Plimouth* Harbour, when the *Spanish* Armada came into the Channel, and had not God Infatuated them, and made the Stars in their Courses to fight against them, might have blockt us up there whilst the Prince of *Parma* had Landed his Army in *England*.

They would do well likewise to consider whether a certain Prince, who was never a Slave to his Word, and seldom misses to lay hold of his opportunitys, would not think it a very good one to revenge himself upon a Prince and Nation, that have broke all his Political and Ecclesiastical Measures, if once he found them without a Defence, and could a better opportunity be desired than to have him and his Parliament set at Variance; his Troops disbanded against his Will, and his people possessed with an opinion that he designs to enslave them: Yet these are the things, this Pamphlet drives at, whether the

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Authors have touch'd any Lewidors or not may be worth the Enquiry, for some Passages in their Book make it very suspicious.

Page 19. 'They tell us that the Prince of *Orange* in his Declaration, when he Landed, set forth all the Oppressions of 'the last Reign [but the keeping up a standing Army] 'declared for a free Parliament in which things were to be so 'settled that there should be no danger of falling again into slavery and promised to send back all his Foreign Forces as soon 'as this was done, By which they would insinuate that he always design'd a standing Army, and that he hath broke his promise in not sending home his Foreign Troops, But can these Gentlemen have the confidence to say that we are hitherto delivered from the danger of falling back into that very Slavery, and under that same Prince too, from which he deliver'd us, do they not remember how near the Fatal blow was being given to the most valuable Life in the whole World, but a few years ago, and that the late King with a *French* Army was come as far as *Callis* before ever we heard of him, and was immediately to have Embarked upon a signal from *Dover* Clifs, or a Message that King *William* was murder'd, and that *Fenwick Friend*, and the rest of the Jacobites were to have joyn'd him upon his Landing: And is not a great Potentate in the World more at leisure now to second and countenance such an Expedition than he was then? did it not appear at the Tryals of the Plotters, that he would have sent an Army to joyn them sooner, if he had not been diverted with so many Enemies, *sur le bras* to use their own Term, all at once? does not the raging fury of the Papists against the Protestants in *Irland*, *Piedmont* and *Germany*, smell strong of an irreconcilable hatred and Hellish rancour against the Reformed Religion and its known Champion? does not that horrid division that they have sown in the Empire between the Papists and Protestants there deprive us of all hopes of assistance from our Allies beyond Sea? and does not these ill tim'd ad fiery suggestions contain'd in this Pamphlet against his *Majesty* and his Administrations, all look as if there were a design in hand, not only to deprive King *William* of the assistance of his Friends beyond Sea, but to render him suspected to his Friends on this side, and is it he alone that they aim at, or is it not the Protestant Interest which he hath so gallantly defended,

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In the 20th. Page they are very angry that the Article in our Declaration of Right, which says, 'That the raising 'and keeping up an Army in time of Peace, is contrary to 'Law. Had these words tagg'd to it, *Without Authority of Par-'liament*, as if, say they, the consent of the Parliament would 'not have made it Legal without those words, or that their con-'sent would make it less dangerous. But by these Gentlemens leave if it be not a mighty presumption to offer to argue with them, that so much despise the Wisdom of that Convention to which we owe the settlement of all the liberty we enjoy, 'tis very plain there may be a Case when 'tis necessary for a Parliament to give their Consent to the raising or keeping up of a standing Army in time of Peace, as Information of a design to invade us from abroad or of a Plot to bring us into Confusion at home, and this may be done without any danger to the Peoples Liberty, whereas, if it be performed without Consent of Parliament, it must needs be Introductive of Tyranny.

Page. 20. 'They insist upon the mismanagement of affairs dur-'ing the War in *Ireland*, as if they had a mind to charge the 'Rebellion there upon his Majesty, as that of 41 was charged 'upon his Grandfather, for p. 21. they tell us the Jacobites in 'those early days, said that same ill Councellers design'd to play 'the same Game again of a standing Army, and attributed un-'justly the neglect of *Ireland* to the same Cause, because by that 'Omission it was made necessary to raise a greater Army to re-'duce it, with which the King acquainted the Parliament the '8th. of *March*, and declared he thought it not advisable to at-'tempt the reducing it with less than 20000 Horse and Foot. 'This was a bitter Pill to the Parliament, who thought they 'might have managed their share of the War with *France* at Sea, 'but there was no Remedy, a greater Army must be rais'd or *Ire-'land* lost, and to gild it, all the Courtiers usher'd in their 'speeches with this Declaration that they would be the first for 'disbanding them when the War was over. p. 22. Thus the 'Wars in *Ireland* was nurs'd up, either thro' Chance, Inadver-'tency, or the necessity of our Affairs (for I am unwilling to 'think it was design) for at last it was grown so big, that no-'thing less than his Majesties great Genius, and the usual success 'that always attends his Conduct, could have overcome it.

'Then they tell us that the Parliament found Commissary 'Shales to be the cause of a great part of the Miscarriages, prayed 'his Majesty to acquaint who it was that advised the imploying him,

which

'which his Majesty did not remember, that before *Shales* could be 'brought to *England*, the Parliament was prorogued, and after dissol-'ved, and *Shales* soon after died. The neglect of *Ireland* this Year, '(say they) made it necessary to raise more Forces, which afterwards 'on pretence of Invading *France*, was advanced to 87698 Men. They 'say also that the people of *Ireland* demanded Arms, and Commissions 'to be sent them, which in all probability would have made the Re-'duction of that Kingdom very easie; and that in the Army raised for 'the reducing of *Ireland*, very few Gentlemen of Estates there could 'get Imployments, tho' they were in a miserable Condition here, and 'made their utmost Application for them.

Let any man judge to what purpose all this matter is rak'd together if it be not to render his Majesty Odious, and to possess the people with an opinion, that he suffer'd the Affairs of *Ireland* to come to that extremity, on purpose that he might have an Army rais'd, which is in plain English to make him Guilty of all the Protestant blood that was shed, and of all the Rapine and Spoil committed in that Kingdom, and that to prevent the Parliaments enquiry into it, he dissolved them.

I have heard of a Crew about Town that drink healths to him that shall cut of the next King's-Head, and I think it plain by this heavy Charge that some men have a great mind to be at acting the like Tragedy once more, but upon enquiry, I believe it will be found that whereas some of those that were formerly concerned were great, pretenders to Religion, the Boutefeus and Incendiaries of the present time, will be found Jacks, Libertines, Deists, and Socinians, and whether such persons be incapable of receiving Bribes from Foreign or Domestick Enemies, to raise divisions amongst us: Let those who know any think of the Virtuous disposition, and the untainted Honour of .... one of the mighty pretenders for a Commonwealth, and the great Oracle of some Fools of the Party, determine. Is it not a shame that a person whom his Native Country hath vomited out for his Odious Heresies should be so much Caress'd here by some people. Let them enquire amongst all that have known him from his Youth, into his Weathercock temper of Religion, and Commendable Morals, and then let them judge according to evidence, whether such a man as he may not be hired to do any sort of mischief: This I think enough to be a warning to the Wise to avoid such Company. We have no reason to think, that such as are Enemies to reveal'd Religion, are proper to consult as the Oracles of the Nation. The Liberty they plead for is meer Licentiousness, and it may perhaps be worth the inquiry whether the act against Blas-

phemy and Prophaneneſs Laſt Seſſions, hath not prompted them by this means to ſeek a Revenge on the Nation. I have heard that they threatned when that act was Paſſing, to be Revenged on ſome thrt promoted it, and we cannot but think their Rancour extends to his Majeſty that ſign'd it, and we may partly gueſs at the Orthodoxy of the Authors of this Pamphlet, by their ſeeming to deny the Depravation of Humane Nature in the beginning, and ſaying, Pag 18, *That the Domination of the Church*, is the worſt part of Popery, tho' I think all true Proteſtants will ſay, that the Idolatry of the Church of *Rome*, and her Doctrine of Juſtification by works which renders the Death and Merit of our Saviour of no uſe, are worſe than her Domination, tho' that be bad enough, and worſe indeed than we have words to Expreſs it, but any Religion provided they be not curb'd in their Licentious practiſes will go down with thoſe that are againſt Reveal'd Religion, And here I cannot paſs over their malicious Reflection upon the Clergy in General, to whom they ſay, *Popery was not ſo formidable a thing, but with a little Cookery it might have been rendred palatable.* I have ſaid enough already to convince the Gentlemen, that I am no admirer of the Paſſive Obedience Clergymen, and ſhall ſay further, That I believe the Kings and the Nations greateſt Enemies, are amongſt that Crew, and their followers, and if our Authors had taken as much pains to trace the Miſcarriages of our Affairs up to the Fountain, as they have been at to Charge them upon his Majeſty and the Court, they would perhaps have found that they were originally owing to the Diſciples of Paſſive Obedience, but at the ſame time I think my ſelf obliged in Conſcience and Juſtice to ſay that ſuch moderate Churchmen as his Majeſty hath advanced to the Epiſcopal Dignity ſince his coming to the Crown, and the Inferiour Clergy of their ſentiments who are not a few, and always underſtood Paſſive Obedience, in a ſound and limited ſence, would rather have gone to the Stake then have digeſted Popery tho' nev eſo well cook'd, either by Antichriſt's or Biſhop's *Laud*'s Diſciples.

But to return again to our *Iriſh* Affairs: Now that theſe Gentlemen have diſcharged their Choler, do they think the Nation have forgot, that his Majeſties Affairs were betray'd there, by Lieutenant General *Hamilton*, and that other perſon, for truſting of whom to the apparent ruin of his Majeſty's Intereſt, Mr. *Temple* did afterwards unhappily drown himſelf? Do they think that the Nation will be gall'd with ſuch ſtuff, that Parliament thought they could have managed their ſhare of the War againſt *France* by Sea, when

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the *French* defeated our Squadron at *Bantry* Bay, Landed an Army afterwards in *Ireland*, and poſſeſs'd themſelves of all the ſtrong Towns in that Kingdom. Is it ſuppoſeable, that the King ſuffered matters to come to that Criſis in *Ireland*, that he might thereby get an opportunity of raiſing an Army, when the Progreſs of the *French* and *Iriſh* was ſuch as well nigh threatned the loſs of the other two Kingdoms? Why don't theſe Gentlemen ſay that he expos'd himſelf at the ſame time to be wounded by the *French* Cannon, and ſuffered his Fleet to be defeated by Monſieur *de Tourville* at the ſame time, for that ſame end too, and to give credit to the Argument, which they mention P. 22. *That a Fleet is no ſecurity to us.* Can any reaſonable perſon think that it was a pleaſure to his *Majeſty* to be reduc'd to a neceſſity of going to *Ireland*, and thereby to give the *French* an opportunity of Invading *England*, as they might eaſily have done had not God prevented it after the defeat of our Fleet under Admiral *Torrington*, do they think that it was a pleaſure for his *Majeſty* to be in *Ireland* when the *French* were ſo formidable in *Flanders*, and did ſo much endanger his Native Country of *Holland*, with the Care and Government of which he is alſo entruſted: what reaſon can theſe Gentlemen aſſign why *Flanders* ſhould not be look'd upon to be the Natural Barrier of *England* now as well as in Queen *Elizabeth*'s time, and that we are not as much concern'd in the defence of that Country now as then. If they will allow themſelves a little freedom of thought, they may ſpeedily be convinced that we are much more concerned to defend it now than then, In thoſe days, it was the Power of *Spain* that terrified all *Europe*; but *Philip* the II. could not bring Vaſt Armies by Land into *Flanders*, as the *French* King now can do, ſo that there was no ſuch reaſon to be afraid of him as we have now to be afraid of the *French*, who if they had the Seaports of *Flanders* and *Holland* once in poſſeſſion, and that they might ſoon accompliſh if *England* ſtood Neuter, or did not aſſiſt the *Netherlands*, any otherwiſe than by Sea, we muſt quickly ſubmit our Necks to the Gallican Yoak, our Merchants could ſtir no where but they muſt become their Prize, they might conſidering their own ſtrength at Sea, and the acceſſion it would thereby receive be able to cope with our Fleet, and Invade us by Land when they pleaſed. With what reaſon then can theſe Gentlemen advance that the Parliament thought they could manage their part of the War with *France* by Sea, can any man be ſo little ſenſible of the true Intereſt of *England* as to think that we ſhould ſit ſtill, and tamely look on whilſt the *French* ſwallowed up the *Netherlands*. I remember indeed that this was the uſual

Topick

Topick insisted on by the *Jacobites* in publick Company, what were we concerned with *Flanders*. How would it affect us if *Namure*, &c. were in Ashes; what had we to do to send Forces thither? and now it seems, this Republican Club as they would have the World believe them to be, are become the *Jacobites* Eccho, and its well if there be not *Jacobites* in masquerade among them, tho' I think there's little need of any such disguise when some of the Hot-heads are not ashamed openly to profess that they look for better things from the known *Jacobites*, than from the Whiggs.

We have the more ground for this suspicion, when these Gentlemen tell us *page* 24. That at the opening of the last Sessions of Parliament, *a New Plot was said to be discovered for murdering the King, and searches were made at midnight through the whole City, to the discovery of plenty of Fornication, but no Traitors.* What then it seems the Court now have learned the art of making Sham-plots, as well as the Courts in former times, a handsome suggestion! Have our pretended Commonwealth Club learned the art of ridiculing Plots, from their Brethren the Tories, was their never any such thing as a Plot to murder the King, it's pity but that some of the Authors of such Raillery should be obliged to do Penance for ridiculing the Plot at the Gallows, where the Assassins confessed it: Are our Jacobites so much reformed for the better, that they are not capable of such an Execrable design now, as well as two or three years ago, will our pretended Commonwealth-Club become their Vouchers, then I hope the Jacobites will be so kind to them on the other hand as to undertake that they will cut off no more Kings by a wrested form of Law: Then e'en let it be so, with all my heart, so have I seen two Scabbed Jades Nab on another with great pleasure for a while, till they came to touch to the Quick and then fell at last to determine the Controverse with their Heels after having sounded a Charge with the Trumpets of their Tails? Well, but it seems the searchers did not lose all their labour for they discovered plenty of Fornication, which our honest Club think fit to make a Jest of, and that is another proof of their good morals; but in truth, I know no reason why a pretended Socinian Commonwealth's-man should scruple the Commission of that or any other Crime, more than a Popish or Protestant King *James*'s man, and perhaps a Love to Licentiousness is the principal Tie of their present Union.

Others

Others will tell 'em that there is a certain Prince in the World who invaded a neighbouring Country for having given him *ill Satisfaction*, and is it not reasonable to think that Publick Ambition, and desire of Revenge may prompt such an one more strongly to invade a Kingdom, that hath giv'n him an open, and avowed Dissatisfaction? Was there never any such thing as a Massacre in *France* carried on under Pretence of a Marriage-Treaty, and a *Pontifex Necem Colubri probat* writ upon the Pope's Windows to justifie the Lawfulness of it? And is *Rome* become now so tender-hearted, and of such a Pusillanimous Conscience, that she could not for such a good Cause, as the Extirpating the Northern Heresie, give a *Pontifex Angliæ commestum & populationem probat*, notwithstanding a Publick Treaty?

Their Reflections upon the Proceedings of Parliament about the Standing Army, and upon the King and Court, as having acted therein contrary to the Act of Parliament, and their own Promise, are fitter to be censur'd by the Government than taken notice of here. But be the Matters of Fact they allege true or false, it signifies little to the Matter in debate; for if it be true that we have a treacherous Party to deal with at Home and Abroad, and that we are as much under a Necessity of preventing the *Netherlands* being Swallow'd up by *France*, as we should be under of helping to quench the Flames in our Neighbour's House, lest it should afterwards consume our own. The Necessity of a Land-Force is uncontrovertible, and therefore the Government ought not to be lash'd by every virulent Pen, for rewarding those that are so good Patriots to their Country, as to oppose the Current of Jacobites and others against it, *that being the only way to hinder our Enemies from effecting that in Time of Peace that they could never effect in Time of War.* And I am confident every honest and thinking Man will agree, that when His Majesty so positively declar'd that the Posture of Affairs abroad did require a Land-Force for some time; his Opinion is to be taken, and his Judgment to be relied on, sooner than that of a mixt Club of Socinians, Jacobites, and Pretended Republicans, who for any thing appears as yet to the contrary, seem more likely to be influenc'd by Papists and Jacobites, and others, that have a mind to embroil our Affairs, and to bring

those that are for a Commonwealth under the Hatred of the Publick, than to be allowed or encouraged by those that think that Form of Government the best.

Besides, we may plainly see that it is not His Majesty and the Court alone that thinks a Land-Force requisite for our Safety, but the Wisdom of the Three Nations met in Parliament have concurr'd in it; and tho' the Number allow'd be not so great as perhaps the Court might have desir'd, yet it is sufficient to convince the Nations that the Parliaments of all Three think a Land-Force necessary; and certainly their Judgment is preferable to that of our Authors, some of whom, I am apt to think, have little or no Estate to be tax'd.

One would think it were enough to convince any reasonable Man, that there's ground to suspect a mischievous Design at the bottom of all this Clamour against a Standing Army, because the Jacobites in Parliament, and every where else, appear'd so mightily for disbanding the Whole; which certainly they would never have been, had they not hop'd to find their Account in it. And besides, the common Prudence and Policy of Nations never allow of any such thing, whilst those that were their Enemies continue in a Posture of Offence. Their Objection that we had so long time decried the Power of *France*, and publish'd her declining Condition, is nothing to the purpose. It has now been seen by those that formerly would not believe it; and if all our Confederates had been true to the Alliance, the World would soon have had a convincing Proof of it. But that Opportunity being lost, the Desolation and Poverty of *France* may give just Cause of Jealousie to her Neighbours, that she will be under a Necessity to over-run them with her numerous Troops of starving Inhabitants, who have nothing left them to subsist on at Home; the Poverty of the Goths and Vandals having been none of the least Causes of their seeking for Entertainment abroad when they could not have it at home. Tho' *France* be comparatively shrunk to what she was Thirty Years ago, she is strong enough still to ruine *England*, if she have no Diversion elsewhere, which one Point well consider'd, would stop all the Clamour some ill-

ill-minded People have rais'd againſt His Majeſty's going beyond Sea, and ſpending a little Money there at this Juncture, in his Interviews and Conferences with neighbouring Princes and States. We are not ſo ſtrong, nor well united at Home, as not to ſtand in need of an Alliance Abroad; but ſuch is the curſed Temper of ſome People in this Nation, that they love to diſſeminate and entertain Jealouſies of a Prince, both in Relation to Church and State, whom the whole Proteſtant World beſides look upon to be the main Support of their Cauſe, under God, to whom they pour out ardent Prayers every Day for his Preſervation and long Life; and we ſee the moſt Zealous of the Catholick Princes had ſuch an Opinion of his refin'd Vertue, that they truſted him with the Command of their Armies, as *Generaliſſimo*; which put ſuch an Opportunity into his hand, that had he been of ſuch a boundleſs Ambition as thoſe Men would give out, the Univerſal Monarchy ſeem'd in a manner to be at his Devotion; which I think is enough to convince any Man, that his own Subjects have no juſt Cauſe to ſuſpect him.

The only Objection of value, that can be rais'd againſt a Land-Force, in our preſent Circumſtances, is the ill uſe that may be made of them in caſe of his Majeſty's Death, and the Inability of the Country to maintain them; but its hop'd it does not ſurmount the Wiſdom of an Engliſh Parliament to find out proper Expedients to obviate both theſe Inconveniencies. If the Army be put into the Hands of ſuch as the People love, and truſt, and are known to be Men of true Engliſh Principles; if the Soldiers be carefully taught their Duty, and inſtructed in the Grounds of the Proteſtant Religion, by Clergymen of honeſt Principles; and if a good Diſcipline be kept among 'em, or that in caſe of no Military Imployment happen for them during the Time limited for their being kept up, or till the Militia be ſo regulated and diſciplin'd, as they may be capable of defending their Country. If, I ſay, in that caſe the Parliament in their Wiſdom ſhall think fit to employ them in publick Works, for the good of the Nation, all thoſe Fears about them will quickly vaniſh; and inſtead of being chargeable, they may be beneficial to their Country; whereas Idleneſs hath in all Ages prov'd

fatal to Armies, of which *Hannibal*'s at *Capua*, is one great and well-known Instance.

As to those Mens Project, of leaving us in our present Condition, without any other Defence than the Militia, though it cannot be deny'd, but that their Limbs and natural Courage may be as good as that of the Standing Army, yet the faint Resistance they made to the Dutch at *Chatham*, whilst one Regiment of disciplin'd Scotch did such Wonders there, and the Consternation the Nation was in when naked of disciplin'd Troops, upon breaking out of the Plot here against the King's Life, and the Fears of an Invasion from *France*, are enough to stop the Mouths of all Gainsayers. No Man who has look'd into History, but knows that the Roman Veterane Legions, and *Alexander the Great*'s disciplin'd Troops, were too hard for all the Nations that ever encountred them, though many of them were nothing inferiour to them in natural Courage.

It were endless to run through all the Insinuations of that Libel; nor will Time allow me to say any thing further, and therefore, after having acquainted the Reader that I have had no Time to digest my Thoughts upon the Subject, he must not think it strange if I fall short of his Expectation in answering all the Particulars of that Pamphlet; which is the Product of a Club, and the Result of their Mature Deliberations.

FINIS.

Postscript.

AFter the finishing of what goes before, another Paper came to hand, Entituled *Considerations on the Choice of a Speaker*, &c. which being writ, as 'tis supposeable, by the same Party, and directed to the same end, of creating a Misunderstanding between the King and the People, I thought might deserve some Animadversions.

All the Arguments and Suggestions therein contained, proceed upon this Supposition, That the King and Court carry on a distinct Interest from that of the Country, in desiring a Land Force for a limited Time. The Falsehood of which I think is sufficiently demonstrated already; it being certainly the Interest of the Country to have a Defence, and not to expose themselves to the Insults of a Foreign and Intestine Enemy, for want of Regular Troops. If indeed those whom we have most cause to fear, had no other Forces to attack us with, but Country Militia, or could not have any other in readiness, whenever Opportunity offers, there were no need of keeping a Land-Force standing in *England*: but seeing it is known that they have a Numerous Army of the best disciplin'd Men in *Europe*, those who press with so much Violence to have all our Troops disbanded, seem to have an Interest in view, distinct from that of their Country.

The Matter then being so, it can be no sufficient Argument to refuse such a Person for *Speaker*, as is grateful

to His Majesty, or perhaps has some Employment under him, if another cannot be found who is equally capable and grateful both to King and People. It is none of my Business to meddle with the Characters of those Persons whom this Paper seems to reflect upon; only thus much I may venture to say, that I am afraid the Gentlemen who are the Authors of it, would be as much at a Loss, were it left to their Choice, to name a Speaker to please themselves, as they would be to condescend upon a Form of Government, were the present Frame of our Constitution dissolv'd, and they at Liberty to choose one out of all their own Utopian Models.

It must needs be a Disservice to the Country, to create and foment Jealousies at this time betwixt King and People. His Majesty sits at the Helm, sees further into the Posture of Affairs, and Intrigues of Foreign Courts, than 'tis possible for any one else to do; and seeing there's no Reason to think that he will advise to any thing but what is for the Interest of that Country he hath so often ventured his Life to deliver, and make free; they who oppose themselves to a Speaker that may be grateful to him, do just as if unexperienc'd Mariners should refuse a Pilot that an experienc'd Captain knows, and can put Confidence in, because they think he is too much in the Captain's Interest, and may, perhaps, by forcing him to accept one of their liking, run upon those very Shelves that they thought to avoid.

Our Enemies cannot desire a better Opportunity against us, than that which a Division betwixt the King and Parliament will afford them; therefore it seems to be the indispensible Duty of all that wish well to their Country, to endeavour Expedients for promoting an Union; but certainly they don't take such Measures, who so positively

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ly write againſt chuſing a Speaker that may be in his Majeſty's Intereſt. We had reaſon indeed to oppoſe former Princes in that matter; but, bleſſed be God, we have a King now, who hath on all Occaſions demonſtrated himſelf to be *Pater*, and not *peſtis Patriæ*, as ſome of them were; and ſeeing our Brethren in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, who are as much concern'd, and perhaps as zealous to ſeek the Welfare of their Country as we poſſibly can be, have thought fit to ſubmit to his Majeſty's Deſires; as that which they are ſenſible is abſolutely neceſſary for their own Safety; let it never be ſaid, that *England*, who was the firſt that invited him over, and contributed moſt to aſſiſt him in working out our common Deliverance, ſhall now only become ſuſpicious of his Conduct, and prove Froward and Refractory, at the Inſtigation of a Parcel of Men, who make it their Sport and Recreation to throw Darts and Firebrands about, and perhaps, upon a thorow Enquiry, will be found, neither to have more Zeal for, nor greater Intereſt in their Country than other People, but are rather of that Roman Conſul's Mind, *who thought there could be no ſuch thing as Liberty, except People had an Allowance to ruine themſelves if they had a mind to it.*

FINIS.